

Financial Difficulties Of Rowing Clubs In Limerick

THE promotion of a central pools fund for helping to finance the various rowing clubs in Limerick was again mentioned when the annual dinner of Shannon Rowing Club was held on Saturday night in the Club premises, when the view was expressed that it would be to the mutual advantage of all clubs.

Mr. V. J. Quin, President, I.A.R.U., and President of Shannon Rowing Club, presided, and the Mayor, Mr. J. Liddy, was guest of honour. The attendance included Mr. P. O'Connell, President, Lee Boat Club; Mr. C. Bergin, President, Catholic Commercial Club, Dublin, and Secretary, Mr. P. Shanahan; Mr. Sean Mooney, the well-known baritone; and Mr. Tommy Dando, the noted organist; and representatives of the local rowing clubs.

There were approximately 70 people present. Apologies were received from representatives of many other rowing clubs in Cork and Dublin, who could not attend on account of fog, as well as from several prominent local people. Mr. Quin, President, welcomed all present and expressed the hope that they would all enjoy themselves. Outside of rowing, members of the club were interested in many other sports and it was only appropriate and fitting that they should extend their heartfelt congratulations to Harry Bradshaw and Christy O'Connor on their wonderful achievement in winning the Canada Cup (hear, hear).

He referred to the absence of Mr. Michael O'Malley, soir, a staunch member of the club, who was to reply to a toast that night. They all regretted the fact that he was ill and hoped he would have a speedy recovery. The President then proposed the toast of "Ireland" which was accompanied by a musical performance.

TOAST OF THE CLUB Mr. C. J. Quin, former President and former Captain, proposing the toast of Shannon Rowing Club, paid tribute to the older members, Mr. John Hall, Mr. Arthur McNeely, Mr. Ned O'Leary, Mr. Jack Gleaser, and others who had passed on such a fine tradition to present day members. He hoped that they would be spared for many years to come.

Speaking of the days of the Club, Mr. Quin said that the Committee at that time decided to have an appropriate club premises and went to the public auction and bought the site which they had at present. It was rented from the Harbour Commissioners for 1/4 per year. The Committee then decided to build a premises of this size and site. The premises were eventually designed by an architect after a public competition. The raising of funds was gone about in a very business-like way when a huge raffia was organised, the result of which they could see in the very fine building which they now occupied.

AN EXAMPLE To-day, said Mr. Quin, there was a tendency to go to the Government for everything, but the Limerick people could learn a lesson from that old Committee of Shannon Rowing Club who got things done themselves. He congratulated the President on his election as President of the I.A.R.U. It was the first time the honour had come to Limerick and he was sure that Mr. Quin would lift high the name of Limerick. The Club had not much success on the waters this season, but he was sure that they would have crews on the river again which would bring honour to the Club. He also congratulated the CBS crew who had brought such honour and glory to Limerick under the care of the Club (applause).

PRESENTATION BY SOCIETY TO GUEST TENOR Prior to last night's final performance of "Maritana" at the City Theatre, producer of the opera, Mr. Harold McCann, on his own behalf and on behalf of the Limerick Choral Society, made a presentation of Waterford cut glass to guest tenor, Mr. Gerald Davies. Mr. McCann spoke of the great pleasure it gave them to have Mr. Davies with them and of the delight his singing gave to the attendances all the week. This gift was, he said, a gesture of the Society's thanks. Replying, Mr. Davies said he was moved by this kind gesture on the Society's part. He would be always happy to return to Limerick, where he had spent one of the happiest weeks of his life.



Pictured at the Shannon Rowing Club annual dinner held in the Club Premises on Saturday night, were (seated, left to right)—Messrs. Jack Gleazer, Councillor J. P. Liddy, Mayor of Limerick; V. J. Quin, President; E. O'Toole, Second row (left to right)—Kevin Fayle, Captain-Elect, Castletroy Golf Club; Billy O'Donnell, Captain, Castletroy Golf Club; Thomas G. Sheehan, Hon. Treasurer, S.R.C.; Pat Shanahan, Manager, Catholic Commercial Club, Dublin; Michael Curtin, Vice-President, S.R.C.; P. J. Moroney, President, Limerick Boat Club; Christy Hardiman, Vice-President, Limerick Chamber of Commerce; Tommy Back row (left to right)—Chie Bergin, Chairman, C.C. Club, Dublin; Louis Fine, Vice-President, Limerick Chamber of Commerce; Ned McConkey, President, Athlunkard Boat Club; Paddy Donoghue, Pat O'Connell, President, Lee Boat Club, Cork; Jo Hardacre and Peter Kennedy.

FAMOUS PRIEST TO ADDRESS HOLY FAMILY MEN

Members of the Arch-Confraternity of the Holy Family at Mount St. Alphonsus will hear lectures of extraordinary interest this week when they are addressed by Very Rev. Father Harold Rigney, of the Society of the Divine Word. Had Providence not favoured him, Father Rigney, instead of addressing the men of the Holy Family, would still be working out a ten-year sentence in a Chinese Communist prison.

ARRESTED AND TORTURED An American, born in Chicago, Father Rigney was Rector of Fu Jen Catholic University in Peking when the city was captured by the Chinese Reds in 1948. Arrested and tortured, he was accused of being an American spy and sentenced to ten years imprisonment. A public outcry in the United States caused the American Government to negotiate with the Communists for his release. After four terrible years of suffering, Father Rigney was escorted to the Chinese frontier under guard and expelled from the country.

HIS EXPERIENCES IN A "RED HELL" His book, "Four Years in a Red Hell," is an account of his experiences at the hands of the Chinese Communists. Previous to his missionary work in China, Father Rigney served as a chaplain during World War II with the U.S. Army Air Corps. Father Rigney at present is the Provincial Superior of the Divine Word Missionaries in Ireland and England. He arrived in Limerick this afternoon from Liverpool.

NEW REV. MOTHER FOR KILMALLOCK

Rev. Sister M. Dymna, Principal of Kilmallock Girls National School, has been appointed Rev. Mother of St. Joseph's Convent of the Order of the Sisters of Charity of St. Paul, Kilmallock, in succession to Rev. Mother Agnes, who has gone to the Mother House of the Order at Selly Park, Birmingham, writes our Kilmallock correspondent. A member of a much esteemed County Limerick family—she is a native of Ardpatrick, Kilmallock—Rev. Mother Dymna has had many years association with St. Joseph's Convent, Kilmallock, having been principal teacher at Kilmallock Girls National School for some years. A brilliant educationalist, Rev. Mother Dymna has an M.A. degree in English literature, which was conferred on her for a Thesis on Francis Thompson, the poet. She is very well known in this area, is very popular, and her appointment as Rev. Mother of St. Joseph's Convent, Kilmallock, has met with universal approval.

Widow Struck With Bar And Robbed

DURING last night three masked men entered the house of Mrs. Mary McCracken (62), widow, Clonarrick, Co. Fermanagh, beat her up and robbed her of £180.

Mrs. McCracken, whose house is near the Border, lives alone. When the men entered the house one of them struck her with an iron bar on the head and blood began to stream down her face. Her assailants then ransacked the house and in a tea-caddy they found £180 in notes. They then left the house, leaving Mrs. McCracken cowering in her bed. WENT TO NEIGHBOUR'S HOUSE. Though weakened by loss of blood and suffering acute pain, she made her way to the house of a neighbour, Mr. Wm. Crawford, who phoned for the police and a doctor. She is now in hospital.

Mrs. McCracken stated to-day that she was struck many times about her head and shoulders. One of the three men with the iron bar said, "Don't do that." There is intense police activity in the district.

Family Ties Of Strong Plea For Better Treatment Pensioners

The search for the progenitors of "Gentleman Jim" Corbett, who held the world's heavyweight title in the late 80's, has ended successfully. We published in our columns on 5th November an appeal for Mrs. Mary E. Thompson, Oklahoma, who is a grand-niece of "Gentleman Jim", for information concerning the family. According to Mrs. Thompson, the family had Limerick and Mayo connections. In fact, she stated that her grandfather, the uncle of the "champ", emigrated from Limerick.

In a letter of thanks for the great help given in the pursuit of her quest, Mrs. Thompson says that she has now got all the information required for her purpose. James J. Corbett ("Gentleman Jim") dethroned "John L." on 7th September, 1892. He was to remain champion until 1897. In a letter to the Editor, Mr. John J. Hobbins, 2 Catherine Place, Limerick, makes a strong plea for more generous treatment of old age pensioners. Pointing out that this deserving class is being treated in a very niggardly fashion, he says that "only two per cent were taken of the salaries of our overpaid people with salaries of £1,500 a year and over and handed to the old it would increase the pensions by another five to ten shillings." He goes on to say that the "feeling of loneliness and being unwanted is perhaps the greatest suffering our old people have to endure. You will get plenty to stand by you when you are young and strong and the pocket is well filled but when the clouds are about you the tempest blows all desert you."

The Red Cross On Parade

THE City and County Units of the Irish Red Cross Society held their annual Church parade yesterday from the Hall, Cecil Street, to St. Patrick's Church. Some one hundred and fifty members took part in the turn out, which was watched by big crowds along the footpaths. The parade was headed by the St. John's Brass and Reed Band and a Colour Party. It was under the command of Mr. R. Barry, Deputy Area Director. Solemn High Mass was sung at 12 o'clock. Very Rev. Dr. Cowper, P.P., being the celebrant, the deacon was Rev. M. Kennedy, C.C., and the sub-deacon, Rev. G. Ryan, C.C. An appropriate and eloquent sermon was preached by Rev. C. Mullins, C.C., St. John's.



Over 30 members of the Past Pupils' Union (South Western Branch) of Clongowes Wood College attended their annual dinner in Cruise's Hotel. It was the first time that Limerick was chosen as venue. Above are pictured some of the past pupils who attended the dinner (left to right)—Ald. Donogh O'Malley, T.D.; Mr. Oliver Coffey, Mr. John O'Meara, Dr. Louis Courtney, President, P.P.U.; Mr. Anthony Corboy, Mr. William Treacy, Mr. Jack O'Toole, Mr. Denis O'Dwyer and Dr. Michael Roberts.

Over 3,000 Wine Sipped Cheese At C

OVER 3,000 glasses of wine and cheese tasting function on Saturday last. Mention wine and cheese at the tasting, held were each attended by about 800 persons, who sipped Burgundy, Alsace and Bordeaux white wines, as well as Rhone red wines. With these were served French cheese namely "Pont-l'Evêque," "Port-du-Salut," and "Camembert" and "Brie," for the contrasting flavour of each wine. The wines and cheeses were introduced by Mr. W. A. Warre, London.

Among the attendees were the Mayor, Limerick, Councillor J. P. Liddy, and Monsieur Paul Boncour, Commercial Counsellor to the French Embassy, who was one of those who made the most of the motion of the function. Nine firms donated the wines. The cheeses specially flown from France, were donated by two firms, and prepared for the tasting by Mr. Gerard Bellone, of the contrasting flavour of each wine. The wines and cheeses were introduced by Mr. W. A. Warre, London.

THE Mayor, Councillor J. P. Liddy, complimented the organizers and French people concerned on the enterprising event. It was the second time that such a function had been put on in Limerick and he extended to the visitors a very hearty welcome. It was an enterprise from which they in Ireland could learn a lesson. They must have competition in business and they welcomed it, and it was a challenge to them to see what they could do. Europe, in this country and they should make every endeavour to do what they could to advertise their cheeses and every other Irish product as the French were doing with their French products.

THE Mayor added that he had every kind of sympathy for the Irish makers of cheese "but never the less, if you want to have competition in business and it is open to us to do likewise, to go abroad and advertise our own products. Once again I welcome you here and extend to you a very hearty good wish, and sincerely hope that each and every one of you will enjoy the cheeses and wines to be served."

"A FRENCH SYMPHONY" M. Paul Boncour, French commercial counsellor, said he was glad to be there. It was most interesting because Limerick had a long and glorious past behind it. He remembered what he read in his story about the city, went with many of his men to France and fought for France. "That is a thing we people will never forget. I hope you will all enjoy this special occasion, which is a French symphony of wine and cheese."

Local retailers said afterward that the Tasting should have the effect of stimulating further interest in French wines.

People returning home late wondering at the cause of the unusual police activity, collected in numbers and before the "operator" was brought to a successful conclusion Henry Street was greatly excited.

It is understood that passerby hearing suspicious noises coming from inside the premises, dialled 999 to William Street Station. The put the authorities on the alert and within a matter of minutes the suspected premises were surrounded.

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